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States. The topographic and geological surveys of the various countries are next taken up separately, commencing with Great Britain and its colonies. In Asia only one independent country, Japan, seems to have topographic and geologic surveys. Those which were inaugurated by Brazil, the United States of Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Costa Rica, San Salvador, Guatemala, and Mexico were all stopped at the date of the writing of the report. The maps include one of the world, showing the areas which have been trigonometrically surveyed, a more detailed map of the European surveys, and another of the United States, and several sections from the topographic maps of various European countries. The advantages of the various methods of representing relief can be studied by comparing the hachures illuminated by oblique light of the Swiss atlas with those illuminated by vertical light of that of Russia, and both with the system of curves adopted in the Spanish survey. The section from Siegfried's atlas of Switzerland gives the slighter elevations in curves, the higher in hachures, and fulfills its purpose admirably. In the maps of Saxony curves and crayon shading are used, while in that of France five colors are used in combination with contour lines. There is unfortunately a lack of references to enable one unversed in all the varieties of topographic representation to understand them. The necessity of a consensus on the subject is evident.

THE MORPHOGENY OF THE VERTEBRAL COLUMN IN THE AMNIOTA.¹—In this brochure of thirty pages Dr. Baur gives a historical review of the opinions of anatomists as to the homologies of the vertebral segments, which are most easily distinguished among the Rhachitomous Batrachia. There have been three different views on this subject, those of von Meyer, Cope and Gaudry. The opinion of Gaudry has been supported by Fritsch and Lydekker. Von Meyer regarded the intercentrum in Archegosaurus as an inferior vertebral arch, corresponding below, to the neural arch above. Cope believed it to be a distinct body, intercalated between the true centra, which he regarded as represented by the two pleurocentra. Gaudry thought that the pleurocentra and intercentrum together form a centrum, and he therefore names Cope's intercentrum "hypocentrum." Dr. Baur shows Cope's view to be the correct one on various grounds. Among these is the double bilateral origin of the true centrum in Vertebra, as shown by Müller, Roseberg, Albrecht and Froriep.

DIE CLASSEN U. ORDNUNGEN DES THIERREICHS IN WORT U. BILD; von J. G. Bronn; Reptilien, fortgesetzt von Dr. C. K. Hoffman.—This important publication is progressing in its various departments, and bids fair to reach an early completion. Many of its departments are contributed by able naturalists. The de-

¹*Ueber die Morphogenie der Wirbelsäule der Amnioten.* Von Dr. BAUR. Biologisches Centralblatt, August, 1885.

partment of Reptilia is represented by a considerable amount of matter contributed by Dr. Hoffmann. The anatomical portion of this work is quite thorough, and forms a valuable text-book of the subject. We cannot say as much for the systematic portion. This has been written on the principle of inserting everything without criticism. There has been no consideration of evidence as to a correct representation of nature, and the least expressive models have often been selected. No attention has been paid to questions of synonyms; hence the same genus often appears under different names, occasionally attributed to the wrong author. This portion of the work should have been confided to a more competent person.

RECENT BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS.

Smith, S. I.—Report on the decapod Crustacea of the *Albatross* dredgings off the the east coast of the U. S. A. in 1884. Washington, 1886. From the author.

Hauer, F. R. von—Annalen des K. K. Naturhistorischen Hofmuseums, Band I, Nos. 2, 3. Wien, 1886. From the editor.

Forbes, S. A.—Bulletin of the Illinois State Laboratory of Natural History. Studies on the contagious diseases of insects. 1886. From the author.

Wachsmuth, C., and Springer, F.—Revision of the Palæocrinoidea. Part III. The classification and relations of the brachiate Crinoids, etc. Phila., 1886. From the authors.

Packard, A. S.—Zoölogy for Colleges. 5th edition. H. Holt & Co., New York, 1886. \$3.00.

—Briefer Zoölogy. 3d edition. H. Holt & Co., New York, 1886. \$1.40.

Parker, W. N.—Elements of the comparative anatomy of Vertebrates, adapted from the German of Professor R. Wiedersheim. Macmillan & Co., 1886. From the author.

Lyman, B. S.—A geological trip to Yesso in 1874. From the author.

Boselli, E.—Il Contrasto fra l'Amore e la Bellezza. Milano, 1886. From the author.

Dawson, J. W.—Handbook of Zoölogy. Montreal, 1886. From the author.

Walker, J. M., Mrs.—Letters from a mother to a mother on children's teeth. 1885. From the author.

Herrick, C. L.—Bull. of the Denison Scientific Laboratories. The Evening Grosbeak; Metamorphosis and morphology of certain Phyllopods; Notes on American Rotifers. From the author.

Merriman, M.—Rep. of the progress of the geodetic triangulation of Pennsylvania. 1885. From the author.

Mell, P. H.—Rep. of the Alabama weather service, Aug. 1886. From the author.

Pilsbry, H. A.—Description of a new Hydrobia. Rep. Davenport A. N. S., Vol. v. From the author.

Parker, W. K.—On the structure and development of the skull in the Mammalia. Part II. Edentata. Part III. Insectivora. From Philos. Trans. R. S., 1885. From the author.

Errera, L.—Sur l'existence du glycogene dans la levure de biere. From the author.

Schlosser, M.—Paläontologische Notizen. Ueber der Creodonta. From the author.

Lesley, J. P.—The origin and distribution of the Delaware and Chester Kaolin deposits.

—Report on the Cornwall iron ore mines. 1886.

—Re-survey of the Pittsburg coal regions. All from the author.

Ashburner, C. A., Hill, F. A., and Lewis, H. C.—Notes on the Quaternary geology of the Wyoming-Lackawanna valley.